



Montana Council for Maternal & Child Health

P.O. Box 4663 • Helena, MT 59604-4663 • (406) 443-1674 • mcmch@sy-key.com

SENATE PHS

Exhibit No. 1

Date 1-10-07

Bill SB22

MEMORANDUM

TO: Policy Makers, Advocates and Interested Montanans

FROM: Steve Yeakel, CAE
Executive Director

DATE: Monday, January 08, 2007

RE: The 2007 Montana Children's Agenda

Greetings!

The attached legislative agenda reflects the input of more than 500 Montanans who offered their recommendations and their attention at one of seventeen community forums held across the state between November 14 and December 13, 2006.

Working from a rough draft highlighting key issues of interest and concern to our member organizations, we listened to people from across Montana, who shared their words of support and added an issue or two to the agenda before it was finalized.

Agenda issues include a large number of initiatives from Governor Schweitzer's budget proposal which is, once again, a very aggressive plan for addressing significant health challenges in Montana. The agenda also includes some legislative initiatives brought to our attention, and a few issues from groups we are pleased to partner with during the legislative process.

Our intention is that this document would be enlightening and informative. All of the issues received broad support in large and small communities in all parts of the state. Is it an all-inclusive list? Of course not. We will be monitoring as much legislation as possible that relates to maternal & child health, and be as supportive as time and resources allow.

For a little more information about the Council, feel free to review the information on the back page of this document. This overview is a separate document if you are receiving this communication electronically.

With legislators, advocates and interested citizens pulling together, we sincerely hope that the work of this session will result in healthier mothers and children in every community across the state. Thank you for your active contribution to these efforts.

The 2007 Montana Children's Agenda

A. Improving Children's Access to Quality Care

1. CHIP Expansion – House Bill 2, Section B, Program 11

PL 11009 - CHIP Enrollment - The CHIP program was funded with I-149 funds, general fund and federal funds. This decision package provides the appropriation authority for the projected cash flow in the 2009 biennium, accounts for FMAP changes, and provides funding for projected enrollment. This decision package requests biennial changes including increases of \$1.1 million state special revenue and \$5.7 million federal funds and a decrease of \$532,058 general fund. It is projected this will raise enrollment from 12,019 to 13,900 children.

NP 11013 - CHIP Self-Administration - This decision package requests 5.00 FTE and the associated start-up costs for the department to self-administer the CHIP program. This request is funded with I-149 funds in the amount of \$1,236,420 in FY 2008 and \$1,246,569 in FY 2009. The federal funds are \$8.8 million for the biennium. The proposal includes a reserve fund, which the LFD says does not comply with statute.

SB 22 - LC0439, requested by CFHHS by Dan Weinberg, would expand CHIP eligibility to 165% of federal poverty level effective July 1, 2007, amending 53-4-1004, MCA

LC0189, requested by Greg Lind, SCHIP coverage for pregnant women

LC0483, requested by CFHHS by request of DPHHS, revise CHIP laws

2. Public Health/Prevention Infrastructure – House Bill 2, Section B

- **Program 04**

PL 40006 - Health Insurance Flexibility Accountability Waiver - This request is for \$30,055,034 federal funds over the biennium for the implementation and provision of services related to the Health Insurance Flexibility Accountability (HIFA) Waiver. It is designed to provide health care coverage to an additional 5,000 residents with incomes at or below 200% of the federal poverty level.

- **Program 07**

NP 70103 - Tobacco Trust Fund Support for Public Health Home Visits - This request is for \$200,000 Tobacco Trust Fund Interest funds each year of the biennium to support Public Health Home Visits (PHHV), a part of the Montana Initiative for the Abatement of Mortality in Infants (MIAMI). DPHHS will use new PHHV funding for additional Public Health Home Visiting sites and/or to increase funding to existing PHHV sites in order to expand home visiting services by providing intensive case management to pregnant women who are at risk for using substances while pregnant.

NP 70106 - Tobacco Prevention Activities - This budget request is for 2.00 FTE and \$1,370,000 state special revenue each year of the biennium for expansion of activities of Montana Tobacco Use Prevention. The base is \$13.7 million.

NP 70005 - Newborn Screening Follow-Up Program - This request is for \$290,000 in Tobacco Trust Fund Interest funds each year of the biennium to support a comprehensive newborn screening follow-up program. This program will assure the availability of appropriate clinical diagnostic and support services for families and primary care providers

of those babies identified with an abnormal condition from the expanded panel of newborn screening tests. Legislation will be required to implement this new program.

HB 117 - LC0472, requested by CFHHS by request of DPHHS by Teresa Henry, requiring universal newborn hearing screenings and education, amending 53-19-401, -402, and -404 and repealing 53-19-403, MCA.

- Program 11

NP 11038 - Family Planning Waiver Implementation - OTO - This request is for the implementation of the Family Planning Waiver with a one-time-only request for \$695,966 general fund and \$5.5 million federal funds for the biennium. This decision package assumes the implementation of Family Planning Waiver in July, 2007, adding to Medicaid approximately 6,000 low-income women (185% FPL) of child-bearing age. This population would receive reproductive health services estimated at approximately \$480/year. While there will be savings in the future, costs are estimated to increase in years 1 and 2 of the waiver.

- Program 33

NP- 33204 - Methamphetamine Prevention - OTO - This proposal is to continue the goal of preventing meth use by use of a media campaign such as the Montana Meth Project. This project is focused on advertising in Montana -- involving television, newspapers, radio, billboards and movie screens -- to focus attention of the negative impact to people, families, and communities through the use of methamphetamine. This will assist in sustaining the private on going effort to call attention to this issue through concentrated media exposure. The division requests \$1 million general fund, one-time-only funding, in the second year of the biennium.

NP- 33206 - Strategic Prevention Framework Incentive Grant - This proposal requests \$4,664,000 federal funds for the biennium to implement the State Prevention Framework-State Incentive Grant. This grant focuses on infrastructure and capacity building at state and community levels to deliver and sustain effective substance abuse prevention services. There are 2.00 FTE modified to monitor and assist with the management of this grant. The FTE would be responsible for the implementation of the grant, day-to-day activities, performance monitoring and training for providers. The funding will also provide for data collection and analysis, personnel training and the development of state certification criteria for prevention specialists, among other activities. The division will allocate funding to individual communities to implement evidence-based prevention programs.

B. Highway Injury and Death Prevention:

1. Primary Enforcement: Seat Belts and Child Safety Seats

LC0801, requested by the Dept. of Justice by Mike Cooney, primary seatbelt and child passenger safety seat laws

LC1036, requested by Jill Cohenour, child passenger safety violation as primary offense

LC1053, requested by Mike Cooney, unattended children in motor vehicles safety act

2. Motorcycle Helmet Usage

LC0259, requested by Gerald Pease, mandatory helmet use for motorcycle riders

LC1683, requested by Betsy Hands, motorcycle helmet law

C. Children's Mental Health – House Bill 2, Section B, Program 11

PL 11002 - Medicaid Caseload - Children's Mental Health - This request reflects the caseload growth in Children's Mental Health. This decision package requests \$23.1 million in total funds for the biennium. The biennial funding is \$7.2 million general fund and \$15.9 million federal funds.

NP 11901 - System of Care Sustainability - This decision package requests \$400,000 general fund for the biennium for Kids Management Authorities (KMAs) and local care plans.

D. Child Abuse & Neglect – House Bill 2, Section B, Program 03

PL 30001 - Foster Care Caseload Increase - Foster care caseload is expected to increase over the next biennium. This budget request seeks \$5,682,508 general fund and \$2,798,847 federal funds for the 2009 biennium. Along with increased caseload, the department is experiencing more managerial demands as cases become more complex due to substance abuse, particularly methamphetamine, playing a greater role in child abuse and neglect cases.

PL 30002 - Subsidized Adoption Caseload Increase - Subsidized adoption caseload and average daily rates paid to adoptive parents are expected to increase over the next biennium. The number of new adoptions will exceed the number of children who age out of the program. In addition, the rates negotiated for new adoptions are greater than the rates paid for the old subsidy payments that are expiring. This request seeks \$2,207,864 general fund and \$1,956,053 federal special revenue for the biennium.

NP- 30010 - Additional Field Staff - In order to address the "social worker to number of caseload" ratio issue, the Child and Family Services Division is requesting 15.00 FTE in FY 2008 and an additional 5.00 FTE in FY 2009 as field staff. This request is for \$1,035,594 general fund and \$690,395 federal funds over the biennium.

E. Suicide Prevention – House Bill 2, Section B, Program 07

NP 70014 - Youth Suicide Prevention Program - This request is for \$400,000 federal special revenue each year of the biennium to support youth suicide prevention efforts in Montana. This program provides resources to communities to support and promote youth suicide prevention efforts. Eighty-five percent (85%) of funding must be expended at the local level to support community-based efforts to decrease the incidence of youth suicide.

LC0847, requested by William Jones, fund suicide prevention

LC1253, requested by Dan Weinberg, implement suicide prevention program

F. School Readiness – House Bill 2, Section E

\$25M GF to schools to offer full-time kindergarten as an option for schools and parents.
LC0104, requested by Sam Kitzenberg, to implement full day kindergarten

SB 123 - LC0330, requested by OPI thru Ed&LG by Carol Williams, providing full-time ANB funding to public school districts for students enrolled full-time in a kindergarten of at least 720 hours.

G. Treatment for Meth, Alcohol, Other Addictions – House Bill 2, Section B, Program 33
NP #203 \$4M GF for meth and chemical dependency residential treatment expansion for 184 persons distributed via RFPs to five regions and two reservations

H. Oral Health – Access to Dental Care – House Bill 2, Section B, Program 11

NP 11011 - Dental Access - This decision package would provide access to dental services for both adults and children in Medicaid. The request is for \$6 million over the biennium, funded \$800,000 general fund, \$1,110,000 state special revenue and \$4 million federal special revenue.

I. Accommodation of Breastfeeding in the Workplace

SB 89 - LC0042, requested by Carol Williams, to provide for breast-feeding in the workplace by requiring break time and privacy for needs of breastfeeding mothers in state and county governments, municipalities, school districts, and the university system; and providing that it is discrimination to refuse to hire or employ, bar or discharge from employment an employee who expresses breast milk or to discriminate in terms, conditions, or privileges of employment.

J. Improving School-Based Nutrition Programs

LC1845, requested by Teresa Henry, fund school improvements for school breakfast program

K. Modernization of Public Health Statutes

HB 92 - LC0481, requested by CFHHS by request of DPHHS by Eve Franklin, to modernize public health laws and the powers and duties of the DPHHS, local boards of health and local health officers, encouraging greater collaboration, significantly affecting program 7 services, amending portions of Titles 50, 75 and 76, MCA

L. Support for Montana Community Health Centers

LC0682, requested by Greg Lind, expanding access to health care services by creating an advisory group and appropriating \$4 million general fund for 2009 biennium grants to Montana community health centers.

M. Increased Developmental Disabilities Services – House Bill 2, Section B, Program 10

PL 10003 - Annualization of Community Services Cost Plans - This request is for \$4.7 million total funds, \$1.4 million general fund over the biennium, and the balance in federal special revenue, to support annualized cost plans for individuals already in developmental disability community services.

NP 10010 - DD Wait List Reduction - This request is for \$11.4 million total funds, \$4 million general fund, over the biennium to support community services for about 25 individuals currently on the developmental disability community services waiting list of about 500.

N. Family Stabilization - House Bill 2, Section B, Program 02

PL 20012 - Child Care Discretionary Present Law Adj - Federal authority of \$2,006,171 each year of the biennium is requested to enable Child Care to receive a Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funding transfer into the discretionary funds of the child care development fund. This amount is above the base expenditures of approximately \$5.5M. The development fund is a combination of state and federal dollars used for various activities focused on the creation and maintenance of a system of high quality, affordable and accessible child care.

PL 20016 - Child Care FPI, Market Rate, Caseload Inc - Early Childhood Services Bureau (ECSB) is requesting general fund of \$180,000 in FY 2008 and \$187,000 in FY 2009 to support the annual updating of the federal poverty index, plus \$602,000 in FY 2008 and \$679,000 in FY 2009 above the FY 2006 base to maintain child care reimbursement rates for parents at the 75th percentile of an annual Market Rate Survey. ECSB is also requesting \$959,650 in FY 2008 and \$1,562,000 in FY 2009 for a caseload increase to support low-income working parents.

NP 20006 - Childcare for Working Caretaker Relative - This new proposal requests \$1,367,568 of federal special revenue TANF authority for the 2009 biennium to provide child care for working caretaker relatives of children eligible for the TANF child-only grant. Many grandparents and other caretaker relatives are caring for minor grandchildren, nieces or nephews and this request will assist about 140 children.

NP 20020 - TANF Cash Benefit Increase - The executive is requesting \$4,457,966 federal special revenue authority for the biennium to increase TANF cash benefits. The increase will raise the cash benefit standard from 33% of the 2005 federal poverty level to 33% of the estimated 2007 federal poverty level. The TANF caseload has remained fairly stable in FY 2006 and an average caseload of 3,782 cases was used to project the cost of this increase.

NP 20022 - Individual Development Account (IDA) Biennial Approp - This is a request for a biennial appropriation of \$400,000 general fund to provide the required non-federal cash match for Individual Development Accounts (IDAs) established through the Family Assets for Independence (AFI) program. The Administration for Children and Families, Office of Community Services (OCS) has a standing announcement and will accept applications for financial assistance to establish and administer IDA/AFI Projects.

NP 20023 - Restructuring Blackfeet Tribal Plan - The executive is requesting \$2,270,340 of federal authority for the 2009 biennium to support the restructuring of the Blackfeet Tribal TANF plan. This funding will support an estimated caseload of 293 cases that would be assumed by the state's TANF program. The funding also would allow the state to contract back with the Blackfeet tribe for the Tribal NEW contract. This contract would support 196 cases.

NP 20908 - Low-Income Energy Assistance Program OTO - The department is requesting one- time-only biennial \$2,000,000 general fund appropriation to be used to supplement low-income energy assistance benefits for approximately 22,700 households including residents of the Crow reservation. For the other six reservations, the federal LIEAP set aside is 17.4806%, so \$349,612 of this funding will be contracted to those tribes that administer their own federal LIEAP programs.

* LC1988, requested by Teresa Henry by the DPHHS, to exempt day-care providers with a three-year license from mandatory annual unannounced visits by the department, revising

the payment rate for eligible children, amending 52-2-713 and 52-2-733, MCA, effective on passage and approval.

O. Foster Parent Support

LC0440, requested by CFHHS, requiring the DPHHS, to purchase liability insurance for foster parents who are providing foster care or therapeutic foster care for a youth under 18 years of age placed by a state agency, appropriating \$70,000 general fund each year, effective July 1, 2007.

P. Strengthening the Health and Human Services Infrastructure (Public and Private Sectors)

- A negotiated pay plan with new labor/management flexibility is included in the budget with a base salary increase of 3%, a flexibility component: .6%, health insurance \$33/month in 2008 and another \$36/month in 2009 and longevity after 10 years 2% (up from the current 1.5%)
- DPHHS provider rate increases are primarily funded from the health and Medicaid initiatives account with \$17.2M to annualize the 2007 biennium rate increases and service expansions, plus \$17.1M in the 2009 biennium and another \$1.4M for service expansions. The LFD analysis reports the budget recommendations are insufficient to fully fund the 2.5% rate increase recommended in FY 2008 and that the shortfall in FY 2009 is greater. In Program 10, **NP #11**, the DD provider rates are recommended to be rebased with increases ranging from 2.5% to more than 27.7% using \$3.4M GF and \$17.6M SSR; and **NP #501** DD provider rate increase costs \$267K GF each year.



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WHAT IS "MCMCH"?

The Montana Council for Maternal and Child Health is a coalition of health care professionals and community-based organizations, dedicated to improving health care for mothers, children and families across Montana, through public policy analysis and advocacy.

We educate and inform policy makers in and out of government who make laws, write regulations and implement policies which affect the health of babies, children and their mothers.

The Council is a broad-based 501(c)(4) coalition. Its goals are:

- To stimulate the development or revision of state, local and federal laws and regulations, in order to improve maternal and child health,
- To educate officials in the legislative and executive branches of state, federal and local government,
- To provide timely information to members about public policy issues affecting maternal and child health, and
- To serve as the focus and catalyst for other groups concerned with maternal and child health.

Key Issue Areas for the 2007 Legislature

- Increasing access to quality health care, for mothers and children, through CHIP and the state's public health/prevention infrastructure
- Highway injury & death prevention, especially primary enforcement of seat belt and child safety seat laws
- Increasing efforts to meet unmet needs in children's mental health, child abuse and neglect, oral health, chemical dependency, nutrition, family stabilization and other valuable programs

Sustaining Members

AWARE, Inc.

Benefis Healthcare, Maternal & Child Health Services, Great Falls

Billings Clinic

Community Medical Center, Maternal & Child Health Services, Missoula

The Great Falls Clinic

Kalispell Regional Medical Center, Kalispell

St. Vincent Healthcare, Billings

Montana Academy of Family Physicians

Montana Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics

Montana Section, American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies, the Montana Coalition

Working together for the next generation of Montanans